Remarks

The Examiner notes that the information disclosure statement filed 9 November 2001 does not include legible copies of documents 3-9. Legible copies of the documents are supplied herewith for the Examiner's consideration.

Figures 2 and 3A are objected to as employing half tones of poor quality. Substitute drawings are provided herewith.

Figure 3B contains illegible sequence read-outs, the specific sequences of which are not material to the present application. In accordance with the Examiner's suggestion, the Applicants have amended the Figure, removing the illegible sequence read outs. The amended drawings are in compliance with rules for sequence listing.

The Examiner has objected to claims 7 and 9 for informalities. The informalities are addressed in the amended claims.
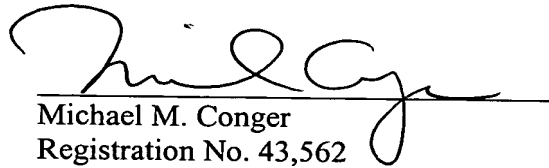
Claims 1-11 and 14 are rejected under 35 USC 112 second paragraph as being indefinite. The Examiner states that Claims 1-5 and Claims 6-11 are indefinite because the claims do not make clear whether performance of the final step in the claimed method, performing electrophoresis, is sufficient to meet the requirements of the claims. The Examiner also rejects Claim 14 because the claim does not make clear whether performance of the final step in the claimed method is sufficient to meet the requirements of the claim. The Examiner requests clarification.

Claims 1, 6 and 14 have been clarified by amendment to indicate the final step of the claimed method is determining the sequence.

Claims 1-11 and 14 are also rejected as being indefinite for use of unclear antecedents and the use of limitations for which there is insufficient antecedent basis. The Applicants have amended the claims to overcome these rejections.

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims as amended are in condition for allowance and request favorable reconsideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael M. Conger
Registration No. 43,562

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GlaxoSmithKline
5 Moore Drive, P.O. Box 13398
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709
Tel: (919) 483-2474; Fax: (919) 483-7988